

## Abstract

A hydrophilic member is provided wherein the restoration of hydrophilic properties after washing occurs in an extremely short amount of time, yet the retention effect of the

5 recovered hydrophilic properties is high. On the surface of glass plate, which is used as a substrate, is formed a tin oxide ( $\text{SnO}_2$ ) film, and on the surface of this tin oxide ( $\text{SnO}_2$ ) film is formed, as an overcoat layer, a silicon oxide ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ) film. Soda glass which has  $\text{SiO}_2$  as its main component is used as the glass plate. The tin oxide ( $\text{SnO}_2$ ) film is formed, for example, by the chemical vapor deposition method, the thickness of the film being from 10 to 800 nm and the mean surface roughness ( $R_a$ ) of the surface being from 0.5 through 25nm. Furthermore, the silicon oxide ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ) film is formed by the sputtering method, the thickness being from 0.1 to 100 nm. Moreover, since the silicon oxide ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ) film is formed on the tin oxide ( $\text{SnO}_2$ ) film, the irregularities of the tin oxide film ( $\text{SnO}_2$ ) are transferred just as they are, which makes the silicon oxide ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ) film have a corresponding mean surface roughness ( $R_a$ ) of from 0.5 through 25 nm.